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Chairperson: Mr. Penke (Latvia)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Agenda item 41: Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions *(continued)* (A/C.3/64/L.52 and L.58)

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.52: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. **Mr. Metso** (Finland) said that the following countries had joined the list of sponsors: Chile, France, Ireland, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Thailand, Togo, Turkey, United States of America and Zambia.

2. Recalling the objectives of the draft resolution and summarizing the role of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), he stressed that the Office cooperated with various categories of refugees and that partnerships played an important part in the fulfilment of its mandate. It was worth highlighting several elements of the draft resolution: the commemoration of the two core instruments on the rights of refugees; the internal reform of UNHCR and, more generally, of humanitarian action and of the United Nations; the security of humanitarian workers; the issue of refugees in urban settings; and the impact of climate change and the economic and financial crisis, in particular on the activities of UNHCR. Discussions on the draft resolution had taken place in a positive spirit. He called on delegations to adopt the text by consensus, as had been the case in previous years.

3. **The Chairperson** said that the following countries had joined the list of sponsors: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Burundi, Cape Verde, Congo, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Morocco, Panama, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Republic of Tanzania.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.58: Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

4. **Ms. Klopčič** (Slovenia), introducing the draft resolution, said that her country remained committed to the objectives of the Programme of UNHCR, and would continue to cooperate with all of the members of its Executive Committee in order to find constructive solutions to the issues at hand. Slovenia was determined to improve the situation of refugees through regional and international cooperation.

5. **The Chairperson** said that Afghanistan, Albania, Belarus, Benin and Ecuador had joined the list of sponsors.

Agenda item 64: Report of the Human Rights Council *(continued)* (A/C.3/64/L.50)

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.50: Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children

6. **Ms. Brichta** (Brazil) said that the following countries had joined the list of sponsors: Austria, Dominican Republic, Italy, Netherlands, Peru, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland and Turkey. She recalled that, on 17 June 2009, the Human Rights Council had adopted by consensus resolution 11/7, which provided that the Guidelines should be submitted to the General Assembly with a view to their adoption on the twentieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. She hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

7. **The Chairperson** said that the following countries had joined the list of sponsors: Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Benin, Comoros, Egypt and Honduras.

Agenda item 68: Right of peoples to self-determination *(continued)* (A/C.3/64/L.51 and L.56)

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.51: Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

8. **Mr. Sial** (Pakistan) said that Albania and the Comoros had joined the list of sponsors. He stressed that the right to self-determination was the most basic right of peoples and nations and the essential foundation of all human rights, and was enshrined in the International Covenants on human rights. Under international law, the right to self-determination was a condition sine qua non for the realization of all other rights; that right had enabled millions of oppressed people to achieve freedom from colonialism, apartheid, foreign occupation and alien domination. The text of the draft resolution was identical to that adopted by consensus at the sixty-third session of the General

Assembly; he hoped that it would be adopted by consensus at the current session.

9. **The Chairperson** said that the following countries had joined the list of sponsors: Bolivia, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Kenya, Togo and Zimbabwe.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.56: The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

10. **Mr. Attiya** (Egypt) said that the following countries had joined the list of sponsors: Armenia, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Gabon, Ghana, Italy, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia and Spain.

11. The sponsors had once again submitted the draft resolution because the Palestinian people continued to suffer under Israeli occupation and to be deprived of their fundamental rights, in particular their inalienable right to self-determination. The sponsors would continue to do so until that right was fully respected. The current text was identical to that of the previous year, with the exception of technical updates and of references to the elements on which the negotiations conducted in the context of the Middle East peace process were founded.

12. The ninth preambular paragraph was particularly important: it was only in their own territory that the Palestinian people would be able to establish an independent, sovereign and viable State and live in peace and security alongside the State of Israel. He hoped that the Member States would send a strong message of solidarity and encouragement to the Palestinian people by adopting the draft resolution by consensus. He was confident that the support of the international community would eventually allow the Palestinian people to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination in their own independent, sovereign and viable State with East Jerusalem as its capital.

13. **The Chairperson** said that the following countries had joined the list of sponsors: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iceland, Jamaica, Liberia, Norway, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Switzerland and Uzbekistan.

Agenda item 69: Promotion and protection of human rights *(continued)*

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments *(continued)* (A/C.3/64/L.23/Rev.1 and L.24)

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.23/Rev.1: Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

14. **Mr. Khane** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the Secretariat had confirmed that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications under section 23 (Human rights). For that reason, no oral statement would be made referring to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/248 in relation to paragraph 37 of the draft resolution. Attention was, however, drawn to the provisions of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B, section VI, and subsequent resolutions, the most recent of which was resolution 62/236, in which the General Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee was the appropriate Main Committee entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters, and reaffirmed the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in that regard.

15. **Ms. Raabymagle** (Denmark) said that the United Nations was based on a number of standards and fundamental principles to which all Member States subscribed. One of those principles was the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. In plain and unequivocal terms, article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights provided that no one should be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. All subsequent relevant international and regional instruments reaffirmed that principle, which underlay the faith of the international community in the dignity of every human being throughout the world. So long as that scourge continued to exist, the United Nations must speak out and denounce it.

16. The draft resolution was a result of bilateral meetings and informal consultations with a number of interested delegations. It referred in particular to the obligation of States to examine and follow up all allegations of torture, and called upon States to include in their domestic legislation the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. It was regrettable that despite developments in jurisprudence over recent years, no

consensus had been reached regarding the paragraph on corporal punishment, and it had therefore been necessary to remove that paragraph.

17. She was grateful to all delegations for their participation and constructive efforts. The shared objective throughout the discussions had been to arrive at a consensus text.

18. She was pleased to announce that Burkina Faso, Burundi, Côte d'Ivoire, Jordan, Maldives, Mali, Nicaragua, Panama, Turkey, Ukraine and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) had joined the list of sponsors.

19. She was grateful to all partners for their commitment and interest, and called on all delegations that had not yet done so to join the 82 sponsors.

20. The Chairperson said that Angola, Belize, Chad, Israel, Morocco, San Marino and Seychelles had joined the list of sponsors.

21. *Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.23/Rev.1 was adopted.*

22. **Ms. Zhang** (China), speaking in explanation of position following the adoption of the draft resolution, said that as one of the first States to sign the United Nations Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, China firmly supported the efforts of the international community to combat that scourge. Her delegation was grateful that the main sponsor of the draft resolution had held several informal consultations, it had taken part in those consultations and had shown great flexibility with a view to reaching a consensus.

23. She wished to make a number of clarifications regarding the text that had been adopted. First, the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, in his report to the General Assembly, had made unfounded accusations against Member States. Her delegation rejected such irresponsible acts and wished to dissociate itself from paragraph 29 of the draft resolution.

24. Second, by adopting the draft resolution, the Committee intended not only to encourage Member States to pay greater attention to the question of torture, but also to encourage the relevant United Nations bodies and mechanisms to improve their work. During consultations, her delegation had therefore proposed adding a phrase requesting the Special Rapporteur to abide by the code of conduct for special procedures mandate holders of the Human Rights Council and carry out his work in accordance with his mandate. Although many developing countries had supported the insertion of that phrase, it had regrettably not been included in the final text. Third, paragraph 4 of the draft resolution emphasized the importance of States ensuring proper follow-up to the recommendations and conclusions of the treaty bodies and mechanisms established under the relevant international instruments. Her delegation believed that the role of States in that regard was rather, on the basis of the principles of objectivity and impartiality, to study and apply those recommendations in a responsible manner, taking into account their own national conditions. China rejected, and could not implement, the conclusions and recommendations of bodies established under biased and politicized treaties. Her country would, however, continue to promote and uphold respect for and protection of human rights, and would continue to cooperate with the bodies established under the relevant human rights instruments on the basis of equality and mutual respect. Her delegation requested that its statement be reflected in the summary record.

25. **Ms. Sapag** (Chile) commended the impressive work carried out by the delegation of Denmark; however, her delegation would have preferred the reference to capital punishment to be preserved. Her delegation called on all of the delegations that had taken part in the consultations to bear that point in mind, since the death penalty was the most cruel and serious punishment that could be inflicted on a human being.

26. **Ms. Halabi** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that her delegation associated itself with the consensus and supported the efforts of the international community to combat torture. According to the draft resolution, States must duly meet their obligations with respect to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and therefore a state or threat of war, political instability or any other emergency could not be used to justify torture. Her delegation wished to have that point included in the summary record of the meeting.

27. **Mr. Ndimeni** (South Africa) said that, while his delegation had joined in the consensus, it had hoped that the draft resolution would give greater consideration to contemporary forms of torture and

other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and other issues, particularly in relation to the closure of the Guantanamo detention centre and the question of the liability of the perpetrators of acts of torture and how a fair and effective remedy could be found in accordance with the fundamental principles and guidelines on the right to recourse and reparations for victims of flagrant violations of international human rights law and serious breaches of international humanitarian law. His delegation had hoped that those elements would be included in the draft resolution, but it would pursue bilateral contacts as agreed with the main sponsors.

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms *(continued)* (A/C.3/64/L.27 to L.34, L.38 to L.41 and L.44 to L.49)

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.27: Combating defamation of religions

28. **Mr. Rastam** (Malaysia) introduced the draft resolution on behalf of Belarus, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

29. The draft resolution introduced each year stressed the need to provide adequate protection against acts of hatred, discrimination, intimidation and coercion and to take all possible measures to promote tolerance and respect for all religions. It also considered the relationship between religion and race and multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination. Lastly, it reaffirmed that the freedom of opinion and expression enshrined in international human rights law must be exercised responsibly to ensure that they did not lead to the denigration of religions and therefore called for respect both for that freedom and for religions. The Organization of the Islamic Conference hoped that mutual trust and understanding could be achieved through a constructive dialogue on the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.28: Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

30. **Ms. Pérez Alvarez** (Cuba) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Pakistan, Paraguay and Uganda. She recalled that the draft resolution, which was submitted to the Committee every year, was particularly important in the light of the current economic and financial crisis, which mainly affected developing countries even though they were not responsible for it. The draft resolution reiterated that the international order should guarantee the full enjoyment of human rights by all. With reference to the seventeenth preambular paragraph, she requested that the phrase "small island developing States" should be capitalized in the Spanish and English versions of the text.

31. **The Chairperson** announced that Algeria, the Congo and Lebanon also wished to sponsor the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.29: Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

32. **Ms. Pérez Alvarez** (Cuba) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Cambodia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Guinea-Bissau, Pakistan, Russian Federation and Turkmenistan.

33. The draft resolution, which was submitted to the Committee every two years, contained new elements and in particular advocated the elimination of double standards and respect for the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, including in the context of the universal periodic review. Recalling that the draft resolution had been adopted by consensus in previous years, she expressed the hope that that would also be the case at the sixty-fourth session.

34. **The Chairperson** announced that Rwanda also wished to become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.30: The right to food

35. **Ms. Pérez Alvarez** (Cuba) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Maldives, Monaco, Montenegro, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Portugal,

Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Suriname, Switzerland, Tuvalu, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia.

36. She noted that, while the right to food was internationally recognized as a fundamental right, nearly 1 billion people currently suffered from hunger because of the food crisis, which had the greatest impact on people in developing countries. The draft resolution reiterated that hunger was an outrage to human dignity that required the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels and the mobilization of technical and financial resources from all sources to guarantee food security for all. She announced that some sections of the previous year's text had been changed during the informal consultations and that the changes would appear in a new version of the text under the symbol A/C.3/64/L.30/Rev.1.

37. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries also wished to sponsor the draft resolution: Bahamas, Belize, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Italy, Jamaica, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago and Yemen.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.31: Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

38. **Mr. Attiya** (Egypt) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Burundi, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Djibouti, Gabon, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Somalia and Suriname.

39. In his view, the growing number of countries sponsoring the draft resolution, which was submitted annually, demonstrated the significance of the issue. He stressed that the goal was not to prejudge the course of globalization or to make value judgments, but rather to grasp the complexity of the changes in communications and production as well as in technological tools and the impact of many current phenomena in order to seek ways to improve the enjoyment of all human rights in the modern world and to ensure that the international community was better equipped to meet new challenges and take advantage of new opportunities. Granted, globalization had its advantages, but greater attention must be paid to the fact that neither the benefits nor the costs were shared equally.

40. Seeing an opportunity to reconcile — or even unify — views on aspects of globalization relating to human rights, Egypt hoped that one outcome of the discussions of the Secretary-General's recent report would be a better understanding of the phenomenon that would lead to greater cooperation in mitigating its negative impact. The sponsors of the draft resolution, wishing to promote a consensus-based approach, called on all Member States to cooperate in the implementation of the resolution that would be adopted.

41. **The Chairperson** announced that Lesotho and Uzbekistan had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.32: National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

42. **Mr. Schroeer** (Germany) said that Israel and Serbia had become sponsors of the draft resolution. Recalling that the draft resolution was based on General Assembly resolution 63/172, submitted by Germany for the first time in 2008 and adopted by consensus, he underlined its main points and noted the technical updates and additions that had been made to the resolution from the previous year, including a reference to the related report (A/64/320) and the establishment of a biennial periodicity for the Secretary-General's reports on the issue. His delegation had been unable to simplify the draft resolution as much as it would have wished, because some of the sponsors were attached to certain parts of resolution 63/172, but that the draft resolution was nevertheless shorter than the previous resolution.

43. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries also wished to become sponsors of the draft resolution: Angola, Armenia, Bangladesh, Benin, Cape Verde, Ecuador, Georgia, Honduras, Iceland, Mongolia, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Vanuatu.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.33: Follow-up to the International Year of Human Rights Learning

44. **Mr. Babadoudou** (Benin) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution:

Argentina, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Dominican Republic, Luxembourg, Peru and Spain. He said that, compared to earlier years, the sponsors, who hoped that the draft resolution would again be adopted by consensus, had wished to deepen the notion of human rights learning by adding the fifth preambular paragraph and four new paragraphs, including paragraph 4, which was particularly important.

45. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries also wished to become sponsors of the draft resolution: Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belize, Chile, Cyprus, Colombia, Croatia, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Italy, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia and Slovenia.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.34: Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

46. **Mr. Michelsen** (Norway) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Angola, Armenia, Australia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Mexico, Peru, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. He recalled that the draft resolution, which was introduced by Norway every two years, traditionally received universal support and stressed that 26 million persons were currently internally displaced owing to armed conflict, generalized violence or human rights violations in all regions of the world, and that some 36 million others were internally displaced as a result of natural disasters. He emphasized that, by adopting the draft resolution, the General Assembly would call upon States to find durable solutions for displaced persons, would welcome the fact that a growing number of countries had adopted domestic legislation covering all stages of displacement and would note that the number of displaced persons owing to natural disasters was liable to rise, particularly under the impact of climate change.

47. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries also wished to sponsor the draft resolution: Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Italy, Liberia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Portugal, Sierra Leone and Uganda.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.38: Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

48. **Ms. Tvedt** (Norway) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Andorra, Angola, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Guatemala, Honduras, Iraq, Italy, Jordan, Mexico, Monaco, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United States of America and Uruguay. She hoped that the draft resolution, which Norway submitted every two years and which traditionally received universal support, would once again be adopted without a vote. Thanking those States that had participated in the informal consultations, she said that the consultations would continue and that a revised text would be introduced early the following week.

49. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries wished to become sponsors of the draft resolution: Benin, Cape Verde, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Slovakia and Vanuatu.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.39: Elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief

50. **Ms. Mårtensson** (Sweden) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Benin, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Monaco, New Zealand, Panama, Serbia and Uruguay. The draft was based primarily on texts that had been approved in previous years, except for some new elements that had been added to address the growing problem of violence against persons belonging to religious minorities throughout the world, a problem to which Governments and other authorities must find a solution. Consultations were continuing; adoption of the draft resolution would reaffirm the international community's determination to eliminate all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, while promoting freedom of religion and conscience.

51. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Angola, Cape Verde, Colombia, Costa Rica, Georgia,

Haiti, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, San Marino, Sri Lanka and Vanuatu.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.40: Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa

52. **Ms. Mballa Eyenga** (Cameroon) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Austria, Chile, Comoros, Liberia, Niger, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia. The objective of the draft resolution was to secure Member States' support for the Centre and to inform them of the Centre's activities. The purpose of the Centre was to contribute to the training of staff responsible for managing activities related to human rights and democracy; support the establishment or strengthening of competent national institutions; help disseminate relevant international instruments; and, lastly, prevent conflicts and promote sustainable peace and development and the establishment of a culture of democracy and the rule of law in the subregion.

53. The draft resolution was almost identical to resolution 63/177, except for a few technical updates and the new paragraph 4. The draft resolution would henceforth be presented every two years, demonstrating that the Centre was on the right track after eight years of operation.

54. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Belgium, Chile, Costa Rica, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda and United States of America.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.41: Protection of migrants

55. **Mr. González** (Mexico) said that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Albania, Belarus, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Mali and Morocco. The sponsors of the draft resolution had restructured it for the sake of greater clarity, by linking the human rights of migrants with the corresponding obligations of States. The text considered the phenomenon of migration from a broader perspective, taking into account the fact that migrant workers were among the people most vulnerable to the effects of the current global economic and financial crisis. As Member States had participated actively in the consultations, the draft had obtained almost all the necessary support for its adoption by consensus. However, he urged delegations that had not yet done so to become sponsors.

56. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Congo, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Niger, Senegal and Uganda.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.44: United Nations Decade for People of African Descent

57. **Mr. Suarez** (Colombia), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.44 on behalf of the sponsors, which had been joined by the Dominican Republic, said that the obstacles faced by people of African descent in fully exercising their rights in all areas had been documented in several studies and reports of entities of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

58. While some of the sponsors of the draft resolution, including Colombia, were among the countries with the highest concentration of people of African descent, he hoped that the entire international community would support the draft resolution.

59. **The Chairperson** announced that Belarus, Bolivia, Honduras and Senegal had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.45: Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

60. **Ms. Pérez Álvarez** (Cuba), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.45 on behalf of the member States of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, said that the third preambular paragraph of the draft resolution should be amended to read as follows: "Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 1999/21 of the Commission on Human Rights of 23 April 1999, and the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 52/120 of 12 December 1997, 55/110 of 4 December 2000 and 63/179 of 18 December 2008". In addition, the reference to footnote 2 should be moved to the end of the paragraph and all the footnote references contained in the paragraph should be renumbered accordingly.

61. **The Chairperson** announced that China and Jamaica had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.46: Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

62. **Ms. Pérez Álvarez** (Cuba), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.46 on behalf of the member States of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, said that, in the third preambular paragraph, the word "Switzerland" should be added after the word "Geneva". She hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus as at past sessions of the Assembly.

63. **The Chairperson** announced that China had become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.47: The right to development

64. **Ms. Pérez Álvarez** (Cuba) introduced draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.47 on behalf of the member States of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

65. **The Chairperson** announced that China had become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.48: The promotion of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies

66. **Ms. Pérez Álvarez** (Cuba), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.48 on behalf of the member States of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, said that a draft resolution on the question would henceforth be presented every two years. In paragraph 3 of the draft resolution, the word "conference" should be replaced by the words "meeting or conference".

67. **The Chairperson** announced that China had become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.49: Human rights and cultural diversity

68. **Ms. Pérez Álvarez** (Cuba), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.49 on behalf of the member States of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, said that a draft resolution on the question would henceforth be presented every two years. She hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus, as in the past.

69. **The Chairperson** announced that China had become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives *(continued)* (A/C.3/64/L.35 to L.37)

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.35: Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

70. **Ms. Mirow** (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the European Union and Japan, introduced the draft resolution on behalf of its sponsors, which had been joined by Saint Lucia, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. The draft resolution took note of some positive developments that had been observed in relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and certain international human rights organizations, but expressed concern about the absence of any concrete improvement in the situation in that country. The delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had been kept informed of progress on the formulation of the draft resolution, but it had refused to participate in the process. The sponsors hoped that the draft resolution would be supported by as many delegations as possible if it was put to a vote.

71. **The Chairperson** announced that El Salvador had become a sponsor of the draft resolution.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.36: Situation of human rights in Myanmar

72. **Ms. Schlyter** (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the draft resolution was shorter than that adopted at the previous session. She hoped that Myanmar would continue to cooperate with the sponsors and that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.37: Situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran

73. **Mr. Normandin** (Canada), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, noted that it was based largely on the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 63/191 (A/64/357). He called on Member States to assume their collective responsibility to draw attention to particularly alarming situations in the area of human rights, taking into account the report which the Secretary-General had submitted at their request. Despite its contention that cooperation was more effective than resolutions, the Islamic Republic of Iran was still refusing to cooperate with the relevant institutions, mandate holders and mechanisms. The

sponsors hoped that the draft resolution would receive broad support.

Agenda item 61: Social development (*continued*)
(A/C.3/64/L.5/Rev.1)

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.5/Rev.1: Inclusion of persons with disabilities in realizing the Millennium Development Goals

74. **The Chairperson** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

75. **Ms. Kafanabo** (United Republic of Tanzania), introducing draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.5/Rev.1, said that China, Finland, Indonesia, Ireland, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey and the United States of America had become sponsors.

76. In the context of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals, it was important not to exclude more than 10 per cent of the world's population: persons with disabilities. As had been noted in recent years, particularly during the negotiation and adoption of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, it was absolutely necessary to improve the situation of persons with disabilities by increasing their visibility. The draft resolution was intended to complement the resolution adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-third session. Her delegation and the delegation of the Philippines, which were jointly introducing the draft resolution, were gratified by the support received from other delegations and hoped that the draft resolution would be adopted by consensus.

77. **The Chairperson** announced that the following countries had become sponsors of the draft resolution: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chad, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Iceland, India, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

78. **The Chairperson** said that he took it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.5/Rev.1 without a vote.

79. *Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.5/Rev.1 was adopted.*

Agenda item 62: Advancement of women (*continued*)

(a) Advancement of women (*continued*)
(A/C.3/64/L.19)

Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.19: Improvement of the situation of women in rural areas

80. **The Chairperson** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications. At the time of the introduction of the draft resolution, the following countries had become sponsors: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Cameroon, Chile, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Haiti, Iraq, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Mozambique, Paraguay, Peru, Thailand and Zimbabwe.

81. **Ms. Ochir** (Mongolia) said that, since the introduction of the draft resolution, the following countries had also become sponsors: Algeria, Argentina, Bolivia, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and United States of America.

82. As a result of extensive informal consultations among Member States, a number of revisions had been made to the draft resolution.

83. In the seventh preambular paragraph, the phrase "the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development" should be replaced with the phrase "recalling the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha".

84. In the last line of the English version of paragraph 2 (f), a comma should be inserted after the words "reproductive health". In the same line, the word "prevention," and the word "services" should be inserted after the words "HIV/AIDS" and "care and support", respectively. The last line of subparagraph (f) would thus read: "of sexual and reproductive health, and HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care and support services".

85. In subparagraph (g), the phrase "increased financial resources" should be replaced with the words "resource generation".

86. The phrase "as well as quality, affordable and universally accessible primary health care and services" should be inserted after the words "sexual and reproductive health".

87. In subparagraph (j), the words "their equal access" should be replaced with the phrase "access on an equal basis".

88. In subparagraph (r), the phrase "where private ownership of land and property exists" should be deleted. In addition, the words "and lease" should be inserted after the phrase "equal rights to own" and, following the phrase "and undertaking administrative reforms and", the word "other" should be replaced with the word "all". The subparagraph should thus read: "Designing, revising and implementing laws to ensure that rural women are accorded full and equal rights to own and lease land and other property, including through the right to inheritance, and undertaking administrative reforms and all necessary measures to give women the same right as men to credit, capital, appropriate technologies and access to markets and information".

89. In paragraph 2 (t), the word "Increasing" should be replaced with the word "Developing". The phrase ", while acknowledging technical assistance of relevant United Nations agencies" should be inserted at the end of the subparagraph.

90. In paragraph 3, the phrase "Urges Governments" should be replaced with the phrase "Strongly encourages Member States". Following the words "to identify and address", the article "the" should be replaced with the word "any" and consequently the word "impacts" should be changed to the singular. Paragraph 3 would thus read: "Strongly encourages Member States, United Nations entities and all other relevant stakeholders to take measures to identify and address any negative impact of the current global crises on women in rural areas, including legislation, policies and programmes that strengthen gender equality and the empowerment of women".

91. In conclusion, her delegation expressed appreciation to all those who had worked constructively during the informal consultations to finalize the text of the draft resolution, which she hoped would be adopted, as in the past, by consensus.

92. The Chairperson said that Belize, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chad, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Israel, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Rwanda, Seychelles, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zambia had become sponsors of the draft resolution as orally revised.

93. He took it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution as orally revised without a vote.

94. *Draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.19 was adopted.*

Rights of reply

95. **Mr. Pak** Tok Hun (Democratic People's Republic of Korea), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his delegation categorically rejected draft resolution A/C.3/64/L.35, introduced on behalf of the European Union and Japan, as it was full of fabrications and nothing more than a product of political conspiracy by hostile forces.

96. Since the end of the Second World War, and particularly since the deployment of troops in the southern part of Korea, the Korean peninsula had been a theatre of confrontation between the East and the West and, following the end of the cold war, between the North and the South. For some, the protection of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was protection only in name. Their main concern was not so much to protect human rights in that country as to protect their own political interests and to deny and obliterate the State and social system in place there. That was a serious error, as neither denial, nor obliteration could harm the socialist system chosen and defended by the Koreans themselves. Such futile and meaningless resolutions could continue to be introduced, but they would never destroy the people-centred socialist system of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

97. **Mr. Al Habib** (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that, once again, Canada had introduced a draft resolution containing significant inaccuracies and biased information on the human rights situation in his country. The Canadian delegation maintained that the General Assembly had expressed grave concern at the

human rights situation in Iran in the previous year. However, it should be noted that, upon examination, the list of sponsors of the draft resolution comprised representatives not of the international community, but rather of the European Union, as well as other countries that attempted to impose their values and cultures on others and that, in some cases, were ignorant of the geographical location of Iran or even of the continent on which it was found. It was sad and regrettable that over the past few months and through various means, countries like Canada had encouraged others to vote in favour of the draft resolution. It was also deplorable that Canada, together with two or three other countries, was using the Committee for political purposes and continued to apply double standards — patent proof that they were not in the least concerned about the human rights situation in other countries. The draft resolution did not in any way reflect the human rights situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran; his delegation categorically rejected it, as it lacked all objectivity and credibility in both form and substance.

98. If Canada was truly concerned about human rights, it should attempt to improve its own record. The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination had expressed concern at the fact that minority groups in Canada, in particular African Canadians and indigenous peoples, continued to face discrimination in recruitment, remuneration and job security, and were significantly underrepresented in public office and Government positions. The Committee had also expressed deep concern about the deplorable living conditions of the Canadian indigenous peoples. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women had noted that a disproportionate number of indigenous women in Canada were incarcerated; the same was true of African Canadian women and other women of colour. It had also expressed concern that such women continued to suffer from multiple forms of discrimination, particularly in terms of access to employment, housing, education and health care. In conclusion, Canada's decision to introduce a country-specific draft resolution in the Committee was a clear abuse of United Nations human rights mechanisms for political ambitions. His delegation therefore called on Member States to reject such tactics, which only damaged the credibility of the Organization.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.

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